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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Appln. No.

PCT/GB2004/002571

International Filing Date

14 June 2004

Applicant

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Title

Rope Terminator

Docket No.

248-00322

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee in the above identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A rope terminator characterised by comprising, an elongate hollow barrel (12) formed from a fibre reinforced synthetic resin material, the barrel (12) having therein a rope receiving passage (13), and said passage having a first end region from which the rope (18) to be terminated extends in use, and an opposite, second end region, the passage tapering in internal diameter from a minimum at said first end region to a maximum at said second end region, a tapering wedge member (14) for insertion into said passage of the barrel to trap fibres (19) of the rope (18) between the outer tapering surface of the wedge member and the inner tapering surface of said passage, the wall of said passage and the surface of the said wedge member being such that the frictional drag of the rope fibers on the wall of said passage is less than the frictional drag of the fibres on the surface of the